

## **KINOCHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Meeting held on 05.02.13 at The Village Hall**

**Present:** John Mann (Chairman), Gary Sutherland (Vice Chairman), Christine Mackenzie (Treasurer), Murdo Macpherson (Secretary), Mairi Eastcroft, Kirsty Holland, Angus Ross

**Also Present:** Hugh Morrison (Highland Councillor), PC Ian Sutherland, Graham Wild, Alison Sinton (minutes)

**(1) Apologies –** Fiona Donaldson

**(2) Minutes of 04.12.12**

The minutes of the meeting held on 04.12.12 were proposed for approval by Mairi and seconded by Angus

**(3) Matters arising from Minutes 04.12.12**

**(a) Highland Small Communities Trust**

Gary is to give the details of the Bervie Road house to the Community Company. The Manse Road house has been inspected and is in good order apart from the décor. The HSCT could make this house available for teachers in need of local accommodation. Graham Wild passed on information from Andy Mackay stating that this house is at present back under ownership of the Department of Education. Asbestos is not a major issue and it is hoped that the Manse Road house will be acquired for community ownership.

**(b) Geopark**

Murdo Macpherson and Stuart HcHugh attended the recent Geopark meeting. There are issues that need resolved including funding and structure. A visit from advisers from Northern Ireland is happening shortly. The owner of Highland Stonework has offered the Rock Collection to the Geopark but sourcing funding for housing this is a problem. Murdo brought a report called “Geodiversity Audit and Action Plan” and a DVD to the meeting for anyone who would like to look at this. This will be used if or when the Geopark gets the “green card” and can go ahead. There were no questions concerning this.

**(c) Core Paths**

The report on the consultation with Matt Dent on the Innis Walk is coming out shortly. There followed a discussion on drainage work and state of repair of the bridges on this walk.

**(d) Brochure**

The work on the brochure is ongoing.

**(e) High School Availability**

Kirsty gave a brief report on the positive discussions taking place about the possibility of access to the public.

(f) **Pier Laundry Signs** – currently being dealt with by the Port Committee.

**(4) Creag Rhiabhach Wind Farm**

John and Gary attended the meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> January concerning this. John reported on the Community Benefit Scheme proposed to be set up as a charitable trust for the surrounding areas. It was agreed that it would be a preferable option to have a communal fund as it could be used on a big project rather than a lot of small ones. A random sample of opinions on the wind farm was taken amongst all those present which came out in favour of the proposed Community Benefit Scheme.

**(5) Community Project Co-ordinator's Report**

Although Fiona was unable to be present her December report was read and discussed. Graham Wild explained that work on the football pitch can't commence until all funding has been approved. Loch Clash is continuing to progress and acquisition is hopefully imminent.

**(6) Treasurer's Report**

Christine gave her monthly report. There is £3,169.61 as balance with £97.14 in the War Memorial Fund. Christine is to check out what grants are available to upgrade the war memorial.

**(7) Correspondence**

**Incoming:**

- ⤴ **Highland Council Questionnaire** “Bulky Uplift Service Review”
- ⤴ **Highland Council** – offer of equipment to a nominated volunteer for the removal of snow, leaves etc.
- ⤴ **Community Council Scheme Evaluation 2013 Questionnaire**
- ⤴ **Highland Piping Trust** – Questionnaire

**Outgoing:**

- ⤴ **Highland Council Questionnaire “Bulky Uplift Service Review”** – returned
- ⤴ **Community Council Scheme Evaluation 2013 Questionnaire** – returned
- ⤴ **Highland Piping Trust Questionnaire** – returned

**Incoming since last meeting:**

- ⤴ **Kessock Bridge Works** – Route Changes
- ⤴ **Laxford Bridge Upgrade** – email from Gary Sutherland
- ⤴ **Evaluation of Highland Council Community Scheme** – email forwarded by John Mann to community council members - two attached documents from Kilmuir and Logie Easter Community Council criticising the Highland Council Evaluation
- ⤴ **Public Transport** – forwarded email from Hugh Morrison to George Farlow concerning a minibus to meet the evening train in Lairg
- ⤴ **Gary Sutherland** – email to committee members concerning the suggestion of a bus to meet the evening train

**(8) AOCB**

Graham Wild opened a discussion on the Laxford Bridge Upgrade and the problem of solving the speed problem which this may create. Hugh agreed to find out what signage has been proposed to appear for the bridge approach. **Action Hugh**

Christine mentioned that Bervie Road still has a lying water problem despite extensive repairs.

It was decided to look for volunteers for pavement clearing of snow in the village.

Hugh suggested that certified first aid courses in the high school would be a good idea. Murdo will discuss this with Susan Robertson. **Action Murdo**

The suggestion for a bus to be provided for the return of passengers from the evening train in Lairg was discussed. There was concern about the subsidy that this would require and where it would come from or if it could be made to be economically viable. It was decided that this was basically a good idea and ways to make it work would be investigated.

Alison Sinton mentioned the problem local people have getting a registered gas fitter to come to Kinlochbervie and how dangerous this is. She also mentioned the difficulties in finding an NHS dentist in the area and the problems of transport for attending appointments.

**(9) Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 7pm